THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has not yet issued any guidelines on Multistake Partnership for afforestation yet. It has though, mooted a Multi Stakeholder Partnership (MSP) framework for forestation on degraded lands in the country. The proposed framework envisages a tripartite arrangement between the land owning agency, the local village community and the sponsor who may be a company, firm, user group, trust, society or organization in public or private sector.

Degraded forests to pulp and paper manufacturers

2507. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the details of Multi Stakeholder Partnership for afforestation Scheme;

(b) whether the Government have offered degraded forests to the pulp and paper manufacturers under the scheme;

(c) if so, whether Government have ascertained the views of local inhabitants over such scheme; and

(d) the steps which have been taken to protect the interests of the inhabitants of such degraded forests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has not yet issued any guidelines on Multi Stakeholder Partnership for afforestation yet. It. has though, mooted a Multi-Stakeholder Partnership (MSP) framework for forestation on degraded lands in the country. The proposed framework envisages a tripartite arrangement between the land owning agency, the local village community and the sponsor who may be a company, firm, user group, trust, society or organization in public or private sector.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Increasing forest cover

2508. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of area covered by forests in our country according to the latest Government records;

(b) the annual income earned by Government by way of auctions of forestcoupe along with the quantity of timber items exported to other countries during the last three years; and

(c) the steps which have been initiated by Government for increasing forest cover including social and farm forestry and the estimated income generated in the private sector during the said period?